

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NDJAME 02056 271305Z
ACTION INR-10

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S E C R E T NDJAMENA 2056

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: XA, CU, UR, MPOL
SUBJ: SOVIET AND CUBAN ROLE IN AFRICA

REF: STATE 134913

1. CHADIAN GOVERNMENT BELIEVES SOVIETS HAVE DRAWN UP AND ARE CARRYING OUT A MASTER PLAN TO SUBVERT AND DOMINATE THE CONTINENT. THIS VIEW HAS BEEN FREQUENTLY STATED TO ME BY PRESIDENT MALLOUM, VICE PRESIDENT DJIME, AND FOREIGN MINISTER KAMOUGUE AND HAS BEEN ECHOED THROUGHOUT THE GOVERNMENT AND OTHER INFLUENTIAL STRATA OF SOCIETY. THE CUBANS ARE VIEWED AS A TOOL OF THE SOVIETS WITHOUT SEPARATE GOALS OR OBJECTIVES.

2. CHAD'S PERCEPTION IS UNDOUBTEDLY INFLUENCED BY ITS OWN REBEL PROBLEM, WHICH IT CONSIDERS IN ITS PRESENT FORM TO BE A PART OF THE SOVIET DESIGN. IT BELIEVES IN THIS CONNECTION THAT LIBYAN PRESIDENT QADHAFI IS TAKING DIRECT INSTRUCTIONS, OR AT LEAST BEING LED, FROM MOSCOW. CHADIANS POINT OUT THAT THE FALL OF CHAD WOULD LEAVE QADHAFI, A SOVIET PAWN, WITH A STAGING AREA FOR INTERVENTIONS AGAINST NIGER, NIGERIA, CAMEROON, CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE, AND SUDAN.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 NDJAME 02056 271305Z

3. THE CHADIANS BELIEVE THAT UNLESS THE SOVIETS ARE OPPOSED BY STRONG WESTERN ACTION, THEY WILL CARRY OUT THEIR OBJECTIVE AS THERE IS NO AFRICAN STATE, EVEN NIGERIAN, STRONG ENOUGH TO WITHSTAND THEM ON IS OWN.

4. THEIR PRESCRIPTION FOR MEETING SOVIET ADVANCES

IS SIMPLE; MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO THOSE MODERATE STATES THREATENED. SUCH ASSIIVELY REDRESS ANY INTERNAL GAINS MADE BY PRO-SOVIET INROADS. THEY AGREE THAT IN THE LONG RUN THERE MUST BE DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAMS IN AFRICAN STATES TO INCREASE THE STAKE OF THE POPULATION IN THE SURVIVAL OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS. HOWEVER, THEY POINT OUT THIS TACTIC IS MUCH TOO SLOW TO IN ANY WAY BLUNT THE THRUST OF THE PRESENT SOVIET ACTIONS. CHADIANS POINT OUT THAT IN LONGER TERM, AFRICANS BY AND LARGE WILL NOT MAKE GOOD COMMUNISTS; BUT THEY NOTE IN THE SHORT TERM, AN AFRICAN GOVERNMENT THAT CAN COUNT ON FINANCING AND SECURITY SUPPORT FROM THE SOVIETS, CUBANS OR LIBYANS CAN KEEP ITS POLULATION IN CHECK.

5. CHADIANS RECOGNIZE THAT SOVIET ROLE AND OPPOSITION TO IT COULD BE POTENTIALLY DIVISIVE AMONG AFRICAN COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, IN THIS REGARD, THEY POINT OUT THAT SUCH DIVISIONS ARE NOW BEING SUPRESSED BECAUSE THERADICAL AFRICAN STATES HAVE ACCESS TO OUTSIDE MILITARY ASSISTANCEWHILE THE MODERATES ARE LEFT TO THEIR OWN WEAK DEVICES, AND CANNOT AFFORED TO CHALLENGE DIRECTLY THE FORMER.

6. THE FOREGOING VIEWS MAY BE SOMEWHAT SIMPLISTIC AND ARE NOT SUPPORTED IN THEIR PRESENTATION BY
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 NDJAME 02056 271305Z

ANY CONCRETE INFORMATION. HOWEVER, THEY ARE DEEPLY HELD AND ARE NOT MERELY A NEGOTIATING TOOL TO ATTRACT WESTERN ATTENTION. BRADFORD

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